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on

December 31, 1997

Attorney Docket No. 16380-006100US

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By

C. G. Wisniewski#10/C  
5/24  
PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

MENNO KALMANN et al.

Application No.: 08/809,630

Filed: June 27, 1997

For: ASSEMBLY FOR TREATING BLOOD  
VESSELS AND A METHOD  
THEREFOR

Examiner: D. Isabella

Art Unit: 3308

AMENDMENTFAXED COPY RECEIVED  
APR 6 1998  
GROUP 3300Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 2, 1997, please amend the subject application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel claims 1-13.

Please add new claims 14-34 as follows:

-- 14. A method for replacing a section of blood vessel inner layer comprising the steps of:

removing a section of an inner layer of a blood vessel, wherein the removal creates at least one end flap in a remaining blood vessel inner layer;

providing an artificial blood vessel inner layer comprising a supple tubular section having inner and outer surfaces, at least one end section of said tubular section folded